

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, amend the paragraph starting at line 4 and ending at line 10 as follows:

--- According to another aspect of the invention, the blank is provided for manufacturing a rhomboidal blade. He The finished blade includes a blade footing of rhomboidal shape and a blade body for axial turbo engines and is formed by machining the blank to the finished size of the blade. The blank is a bar cut off from a manufactured by-hot forming hot-rolled, bar-shaped input stock. The input stock has a cross section that is adapted to the cross section of the rhomboidal blade footing and is larger on all sides than the maximum cross section of the blade by only a minimum oversize for machining.--